

## **News Release**

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## Parks and Recreation Holding Interested Parties Meeting for 3M Project

Columbia Parks and Recreation is hosting an interested parties meeting for the 3M Urban Ecology Restoration Project. The project, which is being partially funded by a \$40,000 3M Foundation Environmental Stewardship Grant, will help restore the natural habitat around the MKT Trail at Hinkson Creek.

The meeting will be held at the ARC (1701 W. Ash) from 5:30 to 7 p.m. on September 28. The public will have the opportunity to give input at that time.

The area of restoration was the site of the City's second sewer treatment plant. The main goal of the project is to restore the site to its original wildlife habitat. Plans include removing invasive exotic plant species to allow native plants and wildlife to thrive. Even though the MKT Trail is a popular destination, the area near the Hinkson is not as commonly used. The improvements to the area should increase participation and traffic of trail users.

Work on the project is expected to begin this fall. For more information, call Parks and Recreation at 874-7460.